action, human intervention etc., most of which are location specific. India is a member on the Panel of Coastal Global Ocean Observing System (C-GOOS) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission. During the deliberations in the C-GOOS meetings, the experiences gained by the participating countries on coastal erosion and the possible preventive measures are exchanged.

Statutory Authority to CVC

2131. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to confer statutory authority to the Central Vigilance Commission and to effectively involve the opposition parties in the selection and appointment of CVC members;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons leading to this decision; and

(c) the steps since taken in pursuance of this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court vide its order dated 18th December, 1997, in Criminal Writ Petitions Nos. 340-343/93-Vineet Narain and others--Vs- Union of India and others (generally known as Jain Hawala case) had, *inter alia,* given directions that statutory status should be conferred upon the Central Vigilance Commission. Several consequences of the conferment of such status were also directed by the Supreme Court to follow. In order to comply with the directions of the supreme Court, the Central Government had promulgated the Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance, 1998 on the 25th August, 1998 conferring statutory status upon the CVC. Certain amendments were made to this Ordinance subsequently in the Central Vigilance Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 1998 promulgated on October 27, 1998 by the Central Government. Clause 4 of the Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance, 1998 provides that the Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal on the recommendations of a Committee consisting of the Prime Minister as Chair-person and the Minister of Home Affairs and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of the People as Members.

(c) In pursuance of the provisions contained in the Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance, 1998, the Central Government has appointed the new Central Vigilance Commissioner as per the procedure laid down therein.

Raids by CBI on United India Periodicals

2132. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) raided the premises of United India Periodicals (P) Ltd. on 24th July, 1996 and seized incriminating documents;

(b) if so, what follow-up action has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if no action has been taken the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Regular case (viz). RC. 62(A)/96-DLI has been registered is this connection.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal for Enhancing Percentage of Pension to Central Government Employees

2133. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enhance the percentage of pension payable to Central Government empolyees as suggested by the Fifth Pay Commission;